IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows.

Claims 1-10 (Canceled).

Claim 11 (Currently Amended): A user device that can be connected through a network to a digital information distribution system including a database for storing digital <u>contents</u> information, an information distribution server for distributing the digital <u>contents</u> information in the database, and a storage server for storing the digital <u>contents</u> information thus distributed, <u>the user device</u> comprising:

a communication unit for transmitting an order <u>by a contents user of obtaining the digital contents information</u> to the information distribution server and an input/output request to the storage server through the network,

to make the information distribution server attach duplicate-time limit information to the digital <u>contents</u> information and send the digital <u>contents</u> information with the duplicate-time limit information to a dedicated storage provided in the storage server and allocated exclusively for <u>the contents user</u> ~~a user of the user device in accordance with the order~~[[,]] <u>for storing digital contents information thus ordered and obtained,</u> and further make <u>the dedicated storage</u> ~~the storage server~~ hold the digital <u>contents</u> information with the duplicate-time limit information and input and output the digital <u>contents</u> information in accordance with the duplicate-time limit information on the basis of the input/output request<u>; and</u>

<u>a memory for storing the digital contents information outputted from and inputted to the dedicated storage.</u>

Claim 12 (Previously Presented): The user device according to Claim 11, wherein when the user terminal transmits an output request included in the input/output request to the storage sever, the user terminal makes the storage server send the digital information only when the duplicate-time limit information indicates allowance of a copy to the user terminal.

Claim 13 (Previously Presented): The user device according to Claim 11, wherein the duplicate-time limit information is provided for limiting number of copies to the user terminal.

Claim 14 (Previously Presented): The user device according to Claim 13, wherein the number of copies in the duplicate-time limit information decreases along with each output of the digital information to the user device.

Claim 15 (Previously Presented): The user device according to Claim 14, wherein when the user terminal transmits an input request included in the input/output request and the digital information to the storage sever, the user terminal makes the number of copies in the duplicate-time limit information increase.